

REMARKS

Claims 5-7 and 18-20 remain pending in the application, with independent Claims 5 and 18 being amended to be in independent form including the limitations of independent Claims 1 and 14, respectively, and intervening Claims 2 and 15, respectively. Claims 1-4, 8-17, and 21-26 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and are available for prosecution in a continuation application. Applicants voluntarily amend the Cross-Reference to Related Applications to update status of certain cases and to specify application numbers of the related applications. These changes are believed not to introduce new matter, and entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Based on the above Amendment and the following Remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections, and withdraw them.

The November 1, 2004 Office Action

In the Office Action dated November 1, 2004, Claims 1-4, 8-17, and 21-26 were rejected on a variety of references, and the drawings were objected to by the draftsman.

By the foregoing Amendment, Claims 5 and 18 are placed in independent form, including the limitations of Claims 1-2 and 14-15, respectively. Because Claims 5 and 18 were indicated to have allowable subject matter, they should be allowable along with the claims that depend from them, namely Claims 6-7 and 19-20 respectively. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to Claims 5-7 and 18-20, and allowance thereof, are respectfully requested.

Applicants submit a set of replacement formal drawings that are believed to comply with all PTO regulations and requirements. Withdrawal of the draftsman's objection, and approval and entry of the new formal drawings, are respectfully requested.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants provide herewith an Information Disclosure Statement, official consideration of which is respectfully requested.

Change of Correspondence Address; New Associate Attorney

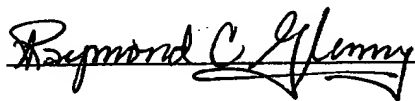
A "Revocation of Associate Power and Appointment of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address" is filed herewith. The Appointment recognizes the undersigned attorney to prosecute the case. It is requested that the examiner verify that the address information has been entered into the PTO mailing system so that future communications will be mailed to the correct address.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections have been complied with or rendered moot. Thus, it now appears that the application is in condition for allowance. Should any questions arise, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned representative so that this case may receive an early Notice of Allowance.

Favorable consideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Date: January 26, 2005
For Customer No. 26,652
Telephone: 301.464.0431

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Registration No. 32,413

IN THE DRAWINGS

Replacement formal drawings (12 sheets), including the changes noted below, accompany this Amendment. Please approve the drawings, which are amended as follows:

- The spelling of "unicast" in FIG. 3 is corrected.